

[Johnson, Dyer C.]

Death of Dyer C. Johnson
[Abridged]

Brother Dyer C. Johnson died on the morning of the 10th of July. He was buried on Sunday, the 12th. The services took place in the Union meeting house at Burlington Flats, Otsego co., N.Y. A very large concourse of relatives and friends assembled on the occasion, and the "word" was spoken that declared the love, goodness and mercy of God. He was a man—a christian man—a Universalist in life, and one in death. His life was characterized by the *deed*. He made it a point to live out his faith, and clearly believing that Universalism, when lived up to, would result in the highest happiness of life, he endeavored as far as he could, to live its principles. He succeeded as far as this—the entire neighborhood in which he lived, turned out to pay their respects to the man and the brother—the man of principle and christian integrity. In conversation with an orthodox brother, touching the moral standing of the deceased, the following opinion that brother declared: "*He was one of the best men I ever knew. We had no better man in our community; and to the last moment he trusted in his God, and died like a christian believer.*"

Elder Byer, of the Baptist denomination, took part in the services, and bore testimony to the christian character of the deceased, and in an excellent prayer entreated the congregation to consider him as an example worthy of imitation. Elder Fisher, also an orthodox clergyman, took part in the services. Here, then, is a man who all his life had been a Universalist, and had died believing in God's ability to take care of him, and yet in all that life we find no excess of crime, no immoral direction. On the other hand, he has lived to be our example.

Such was Dyer C. Johnson, and such is the power of Universalism. The life and character of such a man will stand forever, while the feeble blows hurled at his faith—the faith that moulded the life, and shaped the character, shall fall like the force of oaken staves against strong walls of defense.

C. S. B. [Charles Starr Brown]

South Edmeston, July, 1857.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 25 Jul 1857